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BABY, THIS IS A firework

By Paige Pelonis
Multimedia Managing Editor

In Long Beach, playing pyrotechnician is illegal. The city prohibits the sale and use of firework products and instead encourages residents to attend local firework events if they wish to watch aerial displays.

Meanwhile, in the neighboring city of Lakewood, TNT Fireworks, one of the largest firework distributors in the country, opened up stands on July 1 to sell "safe and sane" fireworks.

These include your standard issue sparklers, Piccolo Petes, Morning Glories, Nuclear Sunrises, and other miscellaneous flashers, fizgigs, and patriotic payloads drunk dads across the nation will be igniting on July 4.

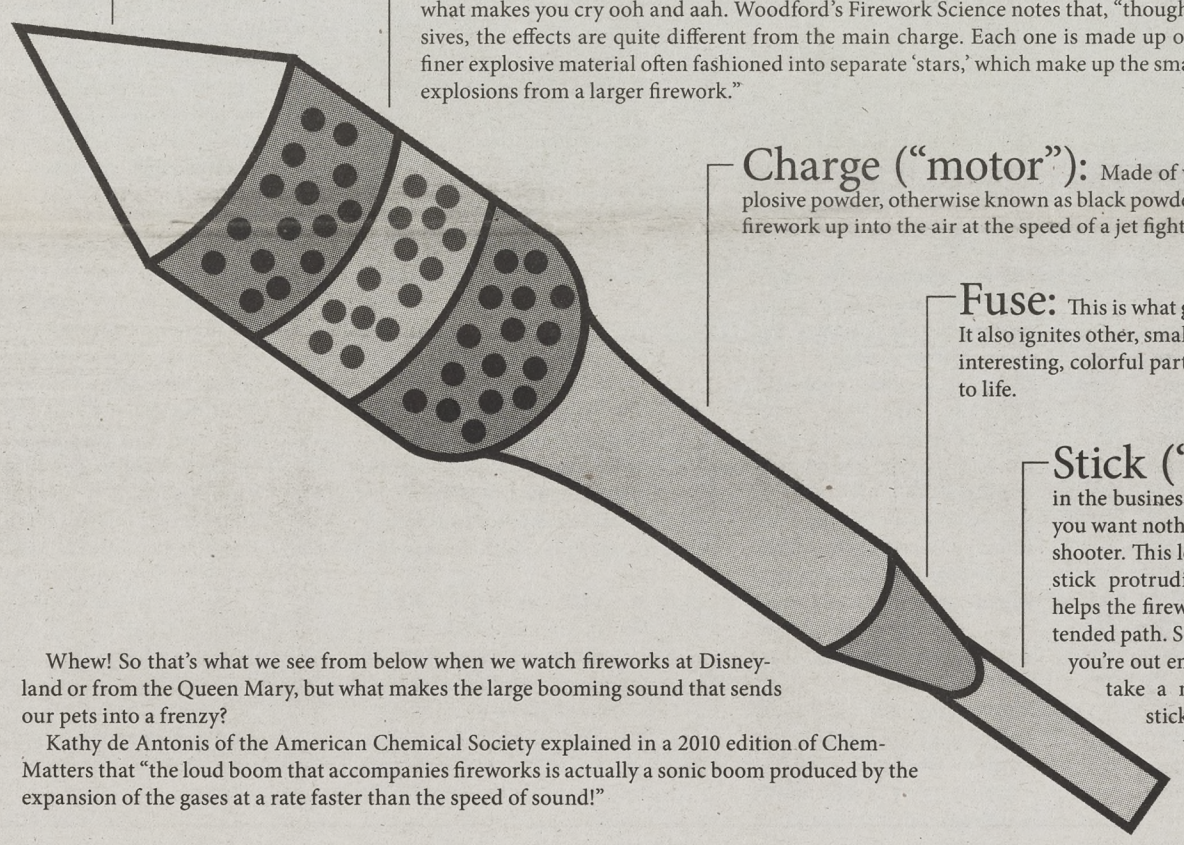
According to FireworksLand.com, "safe and sane" typically refers to firecrackers that "don't fly or explode." The phrase became popular in the middle of the 20th century to promote a new generation of consumer firework products.

The exact definition varies from state to state, even city to city. Generally, the phrase means that you're paying for a few of snaps, crackles and pops accompanied by some colorful shimmer to jazz up the pavement. If you're buying these legally in your hometown, you're most likely safe to assume that they're legal to light.

Quick disclaimer: "Safe and sane" in California does not extend to include rockets, missiles or M80s.

But what makes a firework go boom in the night?

Aerial fireworks have five main parts, according to Chris Woodford, a British science writer for explainthatstuff.com.



Head: The head of the firework holds the effect or effects, and is collectively known as the payload. According to Woodford, most fireworks have a blunt end on the head, but "sometimes the head has a pointed 'nose cone' to make the firework faster and more aerodynamic and improving the chance of it going in a straight line."

Effect: Ignited by a slow burning, time-delayed fuse working its way up toward the head, this is what makes you cry ooh and aah. Woodford's Firework Science notes that, "though essentially just explosives, the effects are quite different from the main charge. Each one is made up of more loosely packed, finer explosive material often fashioned into separate 'stars,' which make up the small, individual, colorful explosions from a larger firework."

Charge ("motor"): Made of very tightly packed explosive powder, otherwise known as black powder, the charge blasts the firework up into the air at the speed of a jet fighter.

Fuse: This is what gets the charge to blow. It also ignites other, smaller fuses that make the interesting, colorful parts of the firework come to life.

Stick ("tail"): If you're in the business of lighting fireworks, you want nothing less than a straight shooter. This long, wooden or plastic stick protruding from the bottom helps the firework stay true to its intended path. So this 4th of July, when you're out enjoying the skyrockets, take a moment to salute the stick. Its what's keeping your face from becoming a target.

Whew! So that's what we see from below when we watch fireworks at Disneyland or from the Queen Mary, but what makes the large booming sound that sends our pets into a frenzy?

Kathy de Antonis of the American Chemical Society explained in a 2010 edition of ChemMatters that "the loud boom that accompanies fireworks is actually a sonic boom produced by the expansion of the gases at a rate faster than the speed of sound!"

A guide to Fourth of July festivities in Long Beach

Big Bang on the Bay:
190 N Marina Dr.
Date: July 3 from 5:30-9:30 p.m.

In case you need to pre-game before the big day, Boathouse on the Bay will host its annual event with music, food and vintage aircraft flyovers Friday evening before The Fourth.

Price: $40-$95 and $20 for children.

Queen Mary All-American Fourth Of July
1126 Queens Highway
Date: July 4 at 2 p.m.

The annual firework show viewed from aboard the Queen Mary will launch in the evening after a day of live music and time-travelling family fun on deck.

Price: $44-$99 for adults and $24-$29 for children.

Can't make it to the Queen Mary for the all-day experience? Her fireworks can be seen from a variety of locations across the City of Long Beach: Hilltop Park, Signal Hill Park or the top of the parking structures at California State University, Long Beach.

Aquarium of the Pacific
100 Aquarium Way
Date: July 4 from 6-10 p.m.

The Queen Mary's firework display can also be seen from the Aquarium of the Pacific where you'll get a feast for your eyes and your grumbling gizzard. A BBQ cook-off kicks off the evening from 6-8 p.m. before the fireworks light up the sky.

Price: $14.95

4th of July Party on the Pier
Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier
5411 E Ocean Blvd
Date: July 4th from 11-10 p.m.
July 5th from 12-10 p.m.

The Beastie Boys fought for your right to party, so don't squander it. Head to the pier for booze, bands, and dancing all weekend long.

Beach Volleyball

Big West digs fingers into the sand

LBSU beach volleyball head coach Mike Campbell talks about the newest Big West sport and his teams chances to win the first championship.

By Kayce Contatore
Assistant Sports Editor

It is official: after four years of NCAA collegiate play, the Big West Conference has added beach volleyball as a formal conference sport which will begin league play in 2016.

Beach volleyball has joined the line-up as the 17th official sport for the Big West Conference, with four schools in the league, including Long Beach State, already fielding a beach volleyball team.

Other schools in the league currently with a beach volleyball team are Hawai'i, Cal Poly and Cal State Northridge. The Big West added Sacramento State and Cal State Bakersfield teams for the 2016 season for the league's six-team minimum requirement.

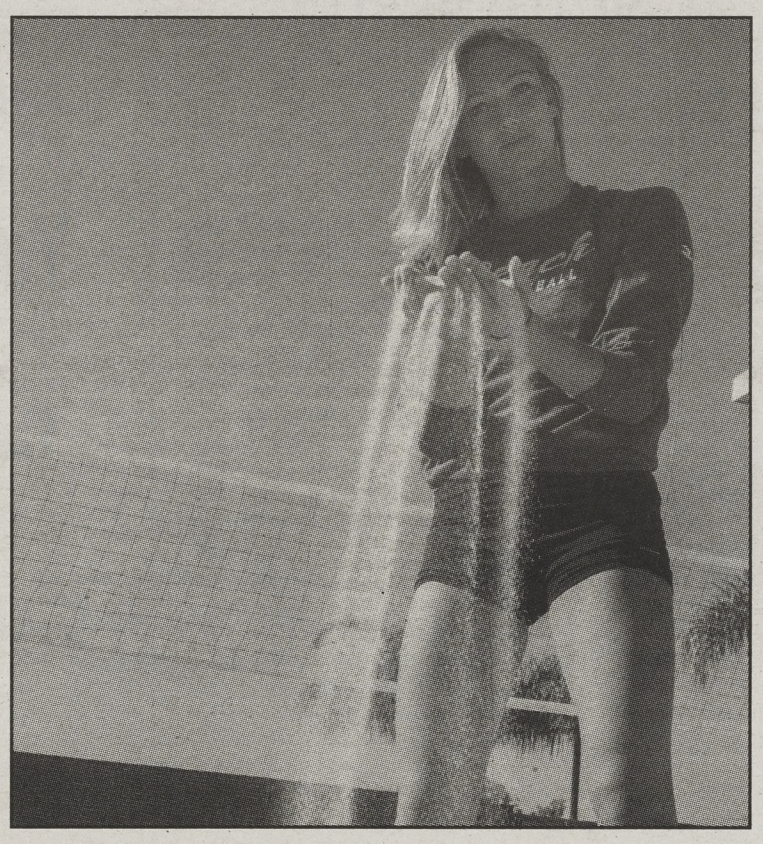
Since the sport's inception in the NCAA in 2012, a total of 46 Division I schools have a beach volleyball team.

The 49ers finished with an overall record of 16-7 and ranked second overall in the nation in 2015. They were also runners-up in the American Volleyball Coaches Association Collegiate Sand Championships. LBSU beach volleyball head coach Mike Campbell sat down with the Daily 49er to discuss his thoughts on the addition of beach volleyball to the league.

What are your thoughts about the Big West adding beach volleyball to the conference?

I think it's great in terms of progression for the sport. It allows us as a conference to have an automatic bid into the sand championships, which to me I think is huge because the success not only we have had, but Hawai'i who is also in our conference. I think we have earned that spot so it's nice to see that the Big West is recognizing that and we can have a say in that Championship.

see **VOLLEYBALL**, page 7



Beach volleyball was officially added as the 17th sport in the Big West Conference. LBSU and five other schools will begin play in 2016 for the first championship title.

File Photo | Daily 49er

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CSULB, LBPD ink internship commitment

New partnership aims to provide students in criminal justice fields with more resources and opportunities.

BY SEAN GALLAGHER
Contributing Writer

California State University, Long Beach and the Long Beach Police Department announced a comprehensive partnership on June 24, which is aimed to expand internships and hands-on opportunities for CSULB students.

The new relationship will result in the chance for CSULB students to engage in forensics work and research new policing strategies, training, and services for LBPD officers and their families.

The new partnership will allow CSULB to send more students in the criminal justice fields to internships with the police department.

"It's really a win-win situation because it allows both institutions to leverage the skills, knowledge, and expertise of one another," CSULB Executive Director Michael Uhlenkamp said. "The police department will also benefit because they'll be able to hire individuals who they're familiar with and who they'll know have received the most cutting-edge training."

The partnership will involve a cross-college collaboration between the College of Health and Human Services, which houses the School of Criminology, Criminal Justice, and Emergency Management and the College of Engineering fields of biometrics and bioinformatics, developing software tools for the use of biological data.

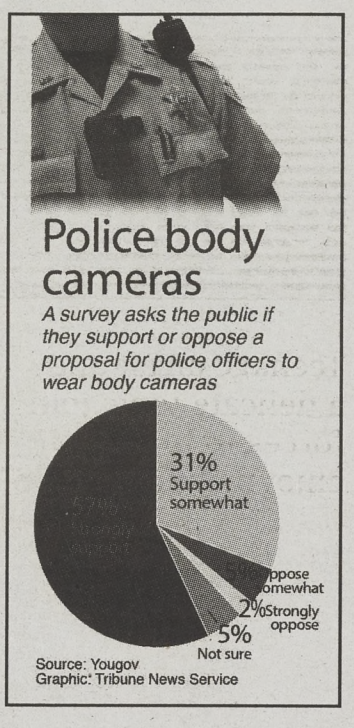
"What I have heard [about the program] seems promising and I believe that it will be a great benefit to me next semester, as well as for future students," said John Chee, a 3rd-year criminal justice major. "I'm very excited to see what working with the LBPD will be like."

The new partnership will also include opportunities for the School of CCJEM to pursue grant funds for various research projects, the first of which will evaluate an LBPD body camera pilot program. Additional collaborative projects are being discussed for the fall.

"Anytime we introduce new technology, we evaluate its effectiveness, and the opportunity to partner with CSULB's experts to accomplish that task will be invaluable," said Long Beach Police Chief Robert Luna in a release.

CSULB researchers will assess the effectiveness of the body-worn cameras during the pilot phase of the program. The process will include participation in a national study coordinated through the Urban Institute with the goal of establishing more effective police practices through the use of body-worn cameras.

"Partnering with CSULB to provide internships has given many students the chance to gain insight into the operations of our city," said Mayor Robert Garcia in a statement. "And we're taking it one step further by connecting students and faculty with our Police Department in research that can ultimately benefit our entire community."



NEWS IN BRIEF

Lights Out

An energy flex alert asks Californians to conserve electricity.

BY AMY PATTON
Print Managing Editor

The California's Energy Conservation Network states that conserving electricity and water can prevent energy shortages and power outages during the peak temperatures of summer.

According to California Independent System Operator, the entire state is in the "critical" state of energy flexing due to the increasing summer temperatures. A flex alert of any level is issued any time grid operators need to use California's power reserves to keep up with the energy demand. California ISO predicted in 2013 that the state would have zero flex alerts this year.

Though The California Energy Commission predicted nearly a 2 percent increase in energy demands from 2010-2015, peak energy use has decreased in the past three years. Peak energy load last summer was on September 15, at 45,089 megawatts. California averages 14,064 megawatts annually, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

In an email sent out Wednesday, California ISO asked that Californians be aware of the energy flux and conserve as much electricity and water as they can during this time. Top recommendations for doing so were turning off unnecessary lights and using major electrical equipment and appliances after 9 p.m.

Tips for saving energy during peak shortage times

- Adjust Your Thermostat: During peak hours or when you're not home, remember to set your thermostat at 78° or higher.
- Setting your air conditioner 5° higher can save up to 20% on cooling costs.
- Close Windows and Doors: Keep windows and doors closed during the heat of the day to prevent the loss of cooled air.
- Adjust Window Coverings: Tilt blinds up and close drapes and shades on windows that receive direct sunlight.
- Clean or Replace Your A/C Filter: A dirty filter forces your air conditioner to work harder, wasting money and energy.
- Keep Cool With Ceiling Fans: Running a ceiling fan while your A/C is on (when you're at home) will allow you to raise your thermostat about 4°F while experiencing the same level of comfort.
- Most ceiling fans use less energy than a light bulb!
- Be Smart About Lighting: Turn off unnecessary lighting and use task or desktop lamps with CFLs instead of overhead lights.
- Power Down Your Computer: Enable "power management" on all computers and make sure to turn them off when not in use.
- Cool Off Your Home at Night: On cool nights, safety-permitting, open windows to let cooler air in. In the morning before the day starts to heat up, close windows and blinds to keep warm air out.
- Delay Heat-Producing Activities: To avoid heating up your home on hot days, postpone using heat-producing appliances like the oven, dishwasher, clothes washer and clothes dryer until cooler times of the day.
- Wash Clothes in Cold Water: When possible, wash clothes in cold water. About 90% of the energy used in a clothes washer goes to water heating.
- Run Full Loads and After 6pm: Run your dishwasher and clothes washer only when fully loaded. During summer, wait until after 6pm to use these and other major appliances.
- Unplug Electronics: Unplug battery chargers, power strips (those without a switch) and other equipment when not in use. Taken together, these small items can use as much power as your refrigerator.
- Adjust Your Water Heater: Turn your water heater down to 120° or the "normal" setting when home, and to the lowest setting when away.
- Head Somewhere Cool: On hot afternoons, consider leaving home, adjusting your thermostat accordingly, and going someplace cool like the pool or the library. Better yet, let nature be your A/C and take a trip to the park, forest or beach.

SOURCE: WWW.FLEXALERT.ORG

The Cal State system gets artsy

National Endowment for the Arts awards CSULB $10,000.

BY AMY PATTON
Print Managing Editor

As part of the Summer Arts program, California State University, Monterey Bay earned a grant to fund art education for local youths.

The CSU Summer Arts Program, founded in the 1980s, is designed to enrich local communities with multi-disciplinary arts education, according to the website.

"For 30 years, we have provided CSU students with transformative experiences that have allowed them to unleash their creativity and become some of the most talented artists," CSU's director of Summer Arts Rachel Nardo said in a press release Wednesday.

The program offers underserved students in the area to complete one art course over the summer and attend varying performances and presentations from guest artists.

With the grant, CSUMB intends to increase access to arts education to local families by inviting them to participate for free in the summer art courses the program offers college students, according to the press release.

"Bringing youth to campus and exposing them to college life with thrilling and dynamic art courses is a prime example of CSU's mission to provide a high-quality, accessible education," Joanne Sharp, the assistant director of CSU Summer Arts, said in the press release. "CSU Summer Arts is proud to help today's college students succeed as artists and prepare tomorrow's student artists for excellence in higher education."

The Summer Arts Program runs through the end of July.

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'Me and Earl and the Dying Girl' explores self-doubt and esteem

★★★½☆

Teenage angst and a delicate topic join forces to bring you enjoyment and tears.

Director:	Alfonso Gomez-Rejon
Starring:	Thomas Mann, Olivia Cooke, RJ Cyler
Rating:	PG-13

COURTESY OF FOX SEARCHLIGHT

From right to left: Rachel (Olivia Cooke), Greg (Thomas Mann) and Earl (RJ Cyler) and in "Me and Earl and the Dying Girl."

While summer tends to have comedies that range anywhere from tasteless to extraordinary, one comedy had moviegoers in tears—both the happy and sad variety.

"Me and Earl and the Dying Girl" treats the heavy subject of cancer with a seriocomic, cancer-sucks attitude, making it an interesting film to watch this summer.

Greg (Thomas Mann) is an atypical high school teen. He talks to every clique on campus just to keep the peace but doesn't really belong to any group.

The only person he considers a friend is another teen named Earl (R.J. Cyler). The two have worked together recreating famous films such as "Nosferatu" and "A Clockwork Orange" into parodies since their childhood days.

However, Greg can't bring himself to call Earl his friend, instead referring to him as a co-worker because he feels too insecure to give him that title; a fear of intimacy Greg soon has to face head on.

A sudden notice forces Greg to step out beyond his comfort zone and finally think of someone else other than himself and his insecurities.

When Rachel (Olivia Cooke), a girl at Greg's high school, is diagnosed with leukemia, Greg's mother forces him to hang out with her. But what starts out as a dreadful commitment changes into one that involves affection, self-realization and dare we say. . .friendship?

Mann embodies Greg's character to the bone: the awkward mannerisms that allow him to avoid sticky situations, the sudden responses to anything that questions his way of thinking and the constant self-esteem issues regarding his frail, lanky frame or "animal-like" face.

He allows the audience to feel a wide-array of emotions: delight, gloom and fear. His dialogue and body language captivate but also make us take a look at ourselves and ask if and when we have ever been Greg.

Cooke also gives an impressive performance. She does a good job of depicting the ups and downs of being diagnosed with such a serious illness, allowing the audience to both cheer for her and wallow in her pain.

When she asks Greg to show her his and Earl's infamous parodies, he initially declines, but her sincerity in wanting to watch something he claims to be "horrible" makes it easier for him to show her.

She plays the most important role in giving Greg a reason to check himself. Ever had a friend that questions you and forces you to think? That's Rachel.

The moment she breaks down is overshadowed by her interest in the boy that was forced to talk to her and is now at her doorstep, everyday.

The last piece of the trio, Earl, is the most simple and honest of the three. Anytime Greg starts his "I hate me" chants or puts up a wall to block everyone out, he is there to bring him back to reality.

Telling a friend they are a selfish douchebag may be harsh, but Earl doesn't bite his tongue and delivers.

While it would have been easy for this plot to fall into the same old boy-meets-girl clichés of high school-based movies, "Me and Earl and the Dying Girl" avoids that trap.

As the trailer says: "...this isn't a touching romantic story."

Theaters in Long Beach to find "Me and Earl and the Dying Girl"

Edwards Long Beach Stadium 26
7501 E. Carson Blvd.

AMC Marina Pacifica
6346 E. Pacific Coast Hwy

Art Theatre
2025 E. 4th St.

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Killing in the name of terrorism

MICHAEL MENDOZA
Assistant Opinions Editor

The death penalty sentenced upon 21-year-old Dzhokhar Tsarnaev is developing mixed emotions among the public. But based on previous attacks against the U.S. and the current state of the war against terrorism, Tsarnaev must be put to death.

Tsarnaev and his older brother, 26-year-old Tamerlan Tsarnaev, set off two homemade pressure-cooker bombs filled with shrapnel at the Boston Marathon. The heinous crime claimed the lives of three people: A 23-year-old woman, a 29-year-old woman and an 8-year-old boy.

The Boston attack in 2013 was the first attack on U.S. soil since 9/11, which took place in New York and Washington D.C. killing more than 3,000 people. This is also the first time that a terrorist was sentenced to death in the U.S. in the post 9/11 era.

These true, but unfortunate, circumstances provide more than enough justification to order the death penalty, despite the fact that the state of Massachusetts has abolished the death penalty since 1984. However, in a poll released by Boston's NPR news station, 62 percent of Boston's residents wanted to sentence Tsarnaev to life in prison rather than death. Since Tsarnaev was charged under federal statutes, he was given the death penalty.

The most recent case that can be correlated to the Boston terrorist attacks, when the culprit is put to death, is the Oklahoma City bombing at the Federal Building. In 1995, Timothy McVeigh, a former U.S. Army soldier, detonated a truck-full of explosives in front of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in downtown Oklahoma City.

Dzhokhar Tsarnaev's sentence to death is a win for the war on terror, but how will this affect terrorism against America?

The blast killed 168 people, including 19 children in the building's day care center. Over 650 people were injured and over 300 buildings were damaged or completely destroyed near the explosion.

Similar to the way Tsarnaev requested to be put to death prior to his sentencing, McVeigh, who was already sentenced to death, requested that a federal judge stop all his appeals and set his execution date. At the young age of 33, McVeigh was put to death by lethal injection. If the U.S. was willing to put an ex-military soldier to death, Tsarnaev's request to die will certainly be obliged.

What is yet to be known, is how long it will take for Tsarnaev to actually be put to death. When an inmate files an appeal for the death penalty, the process can be delayed for years. Timothy McVeigh is one of only three federal defendants, out of a total of 80 defendants since 1988, to be executed.

This is evident through previous cases where the person sentenced to death is not executed for a long period of time. Ted Bundy, one of the most notorious serial killers in the 1970s, was linked to 36 murders and was given a triple-life sentence. It took almost 10 years to finally execute Bundy.

It is no question as to whether Tsarnaev should be executed, but the issue is how this will affect terrorism against America. Unfortunately, regardless if Tsarnaev is put to death in a timely fashion or not, he will most likely go down as a martyr for terrorism against America. Even if Tsarnaev and his older brother had no ties to any terrorist organization. It was all about the timeliness of his crimes. Currently, James Holmes, a 27-year-old former grad student who shot up a Colorado movie theatre killing 12 and wounding 70, is also facing the death penalty. It will be interesting to see the outcome of his insanity plea in this era of war against terrorism.

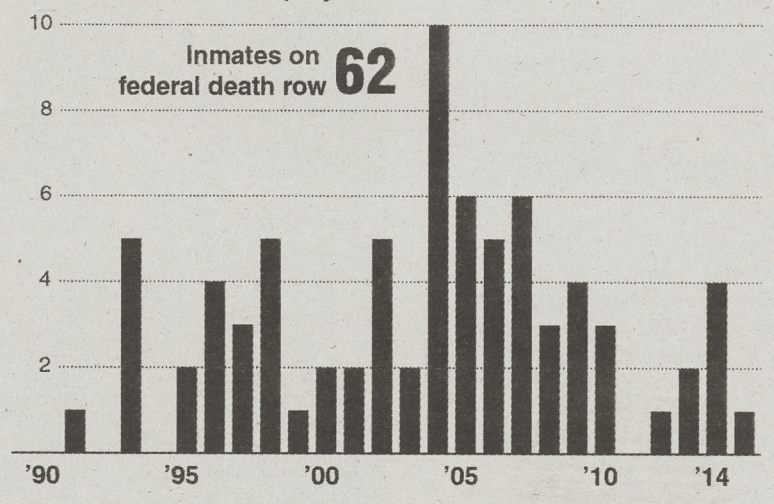
Federal death penalty

A jury sentenced Dzhokhar Tsarnaev to death for the Boston Marathon bombing. The death penalty at the federal level was reinstated in 1988 with new laws authorizing capital punishment for certain crimes, after a Supreme Court decision stopped executions in 1972.

Executions since reinstatement of the federal death penalty in 1988

- **2001:** Timothy McVeigh, *Oklahoma City bombing*
- **2001:** Juan Raul Garza, *Three drug-related murders*
- **2003:** Louis Jones Jr., *Kidnapping and murdering a soldier*

Federal death sentences per year



Source: Death Penalty Information Center, U.S. Supreme Court Graphic: TNS

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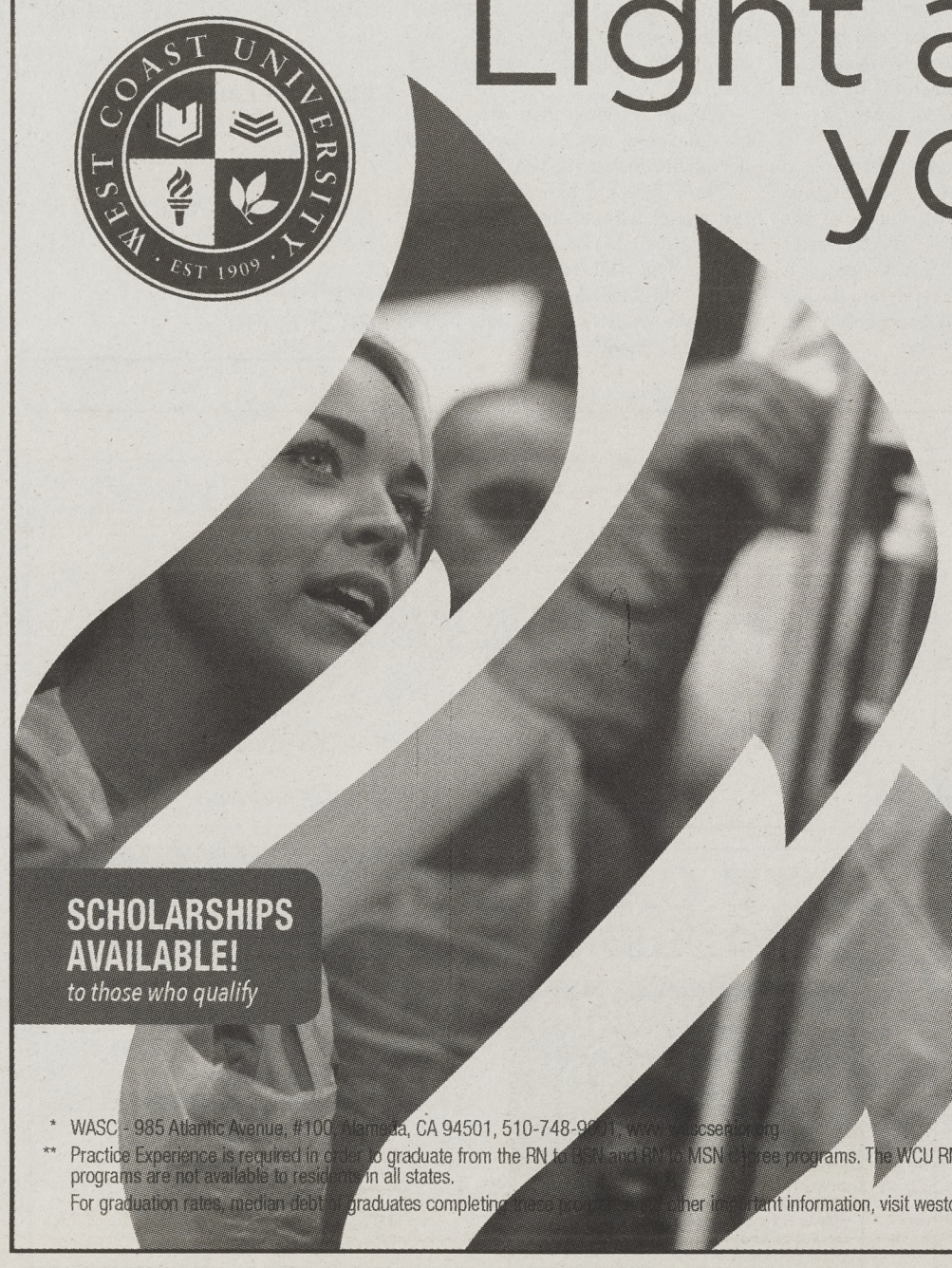

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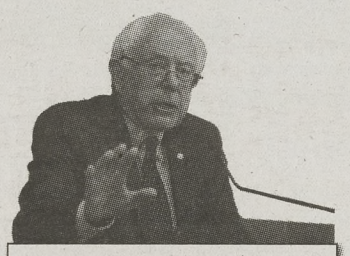
Bernie Sanders: For the people, by the people, Facebooking the people

Joe Eurell
Contributing Writer

Since the announcement of Bernie Sanders' presidential candidacy in May, the mainstream media continues to overlook him. For the millennial generation, Sanders' social media presence proves he is a candidate worthy of their votes.



Bernie Sanders
Democrat/Independent
- **U.S. senator from Vermont** *2007-present*
- **U.S. House rep. from Vermont** *1991-2007*

Issues:
- Favors single-payer health care system
- Voted against major free trade agreements

Source: Bernie 2016, OnTheIssues.org

He's against corporate funding in politics. He's ready to overturn the ruling on Citizens United v. FEC. He's strictly grassroots.

For Sanders, there is a growing buzz of support through social media. After his news conference on May 3, his total number of followers spiked to 72,000 in three days to a likely reach of 1,708,746 people on both Facebook and Twitter.

That number now rests at about 2,403,890 and rising. His Facebook posts receive tens of thousands of shares and likes alone.

These numbers do not include the support from Reddit users, where he is often featured on the website's home page. The support of Tumblr bloggers, where one can search his tag to see countless blogs and posts heading "Bernie Sanders for President 2016," are also unaccounted for.

He also posted a photo advocating to make Election Day a national holiday. The photo was superimposed over a stock photo of ballot boxes. With no searchable text, the post received nearly 122,000 likes and shares. While Clinton's video announcing her candidacy, expertly manufactured so that it is easy to find, received about 120,000 likes and shares.

He is not social media savvy in the slightest. Not following the expert's design of social media success, he shares quotes as photos, posts long-winded statuses and doesn't use keywords to be more searchable. Despite all this, he attracts this vast following.

Coming into his presidential campaign, Sanders was aware that he would be "outspent" by his mainstream competitors, Clinton and Bush. However, he remains optimistic that he can raise enough money to run a "winning campaign."

The donations to his campaign come straight from the public.

The 73-year-old presidential candidate is gaining momentum through support on social media sites.

When contributing a donation, his site includes in its contribution terms that all funds are from your personal account and not provided by another person, entity or through any business credit card.

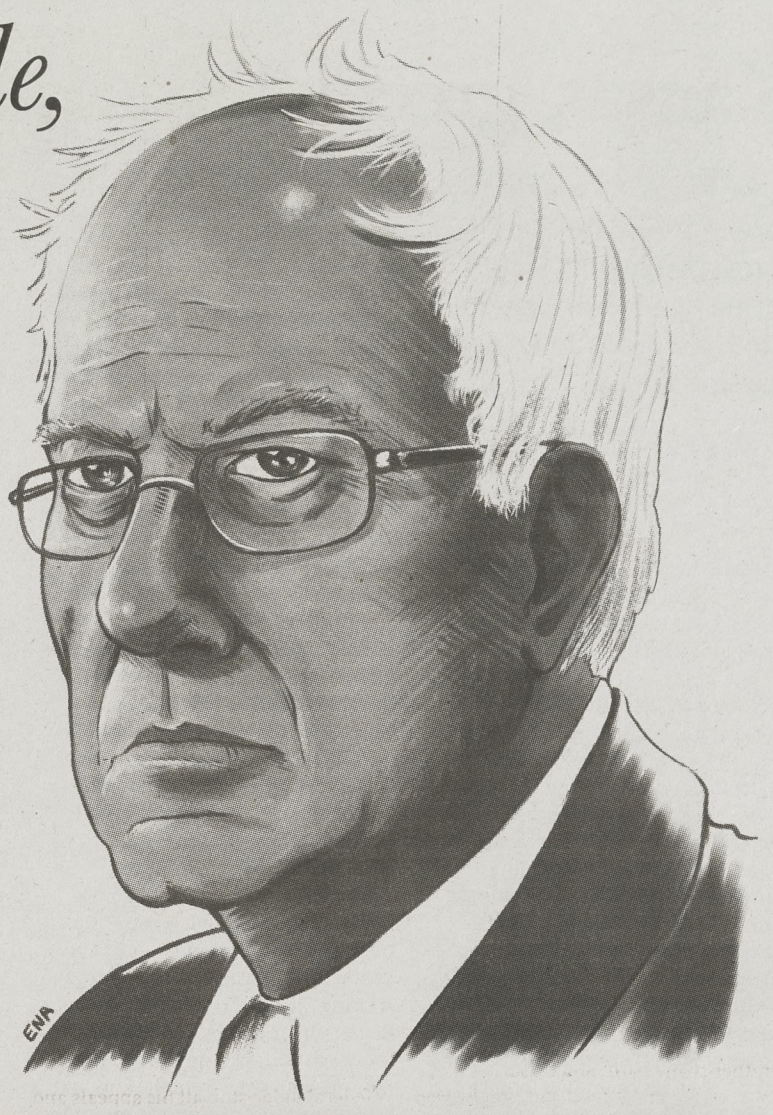
His campaign expects to have $10 million available from over 200,000 contributors and plans to raise $50 million in total, half of what Clinton's campaign expects to raise.

But, why is this self-proclaimed socialist so popular among the people and not so among main media sources? Simple: he's authentic. He writes most of his own content.

As a former journalist, writing comes naturally. He writes topically; about the increasing gap between the upper class and the ever-growing lower class, the need for jobs to remain domestic and making expensive amenities, like higher education and healthcare, free for all citizens.

"I'm not some kind of tech nerd, I really am not," Sanders told the New York Times. "But I have always believed in communication and not just photo ops and stuff, but educating people and communicating with people about the real work that we're doing."

The public loves his fight to bring politics back to the people. Through his authenticity and knowledge of government, he has become a popular choice among the public. Through social media, they continue to show their support, even if the mainstream media chooses the flashier candidates.



Erik Nelson Rodriguez | TNS

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Letters Policy: All letters and e-mail must bear the phone number of the writer and must be no more than 300 words. The Daily 49er reserves the right to edit letters for publication in regard to space.

MLB

COLUMN

Kansas, greedy Kansas

Royals fans across the nation desecrate the All-Star Game by forcefully voting all of their players into the American League starting lineup.

By Josh Barajas
Sports Editor

Kansas City thought it could outsmart a flawed system of voting for the MLB All-Star Game this year without any ramifications. They thought wrong.

When those four, five or, god forbid, six Royals step on the field in Cincinnati on July 14, their 16th ranked offense will let the entire American League down – since the game decides home field advantage in the World Series.

Earlier in the month of June, as many as eight Kansas City Royals led fan voting for starting spots on the American League. This meant that one spot on the team was up for grabs for either the reigning Most Valuable Player Mike Trout, 2012 Triple Crown winner Miguel Cabrera or 2014 batting and stolen bases champion Jose Altuve.

And that's leaving out Texas designated hitter Prince Fielder's and Cleveland second baseman Jason Kipnis' .347 and .346 batting average, or Yankees first baseman Mark Teixeira's 54 runs batted in and Angles first baseman Albert Pujols' A.L. leading 24 home runs.

On June 29, three days before the voting deadline, the number of Royals starters was down to five. Unfortunately, that's still too many.

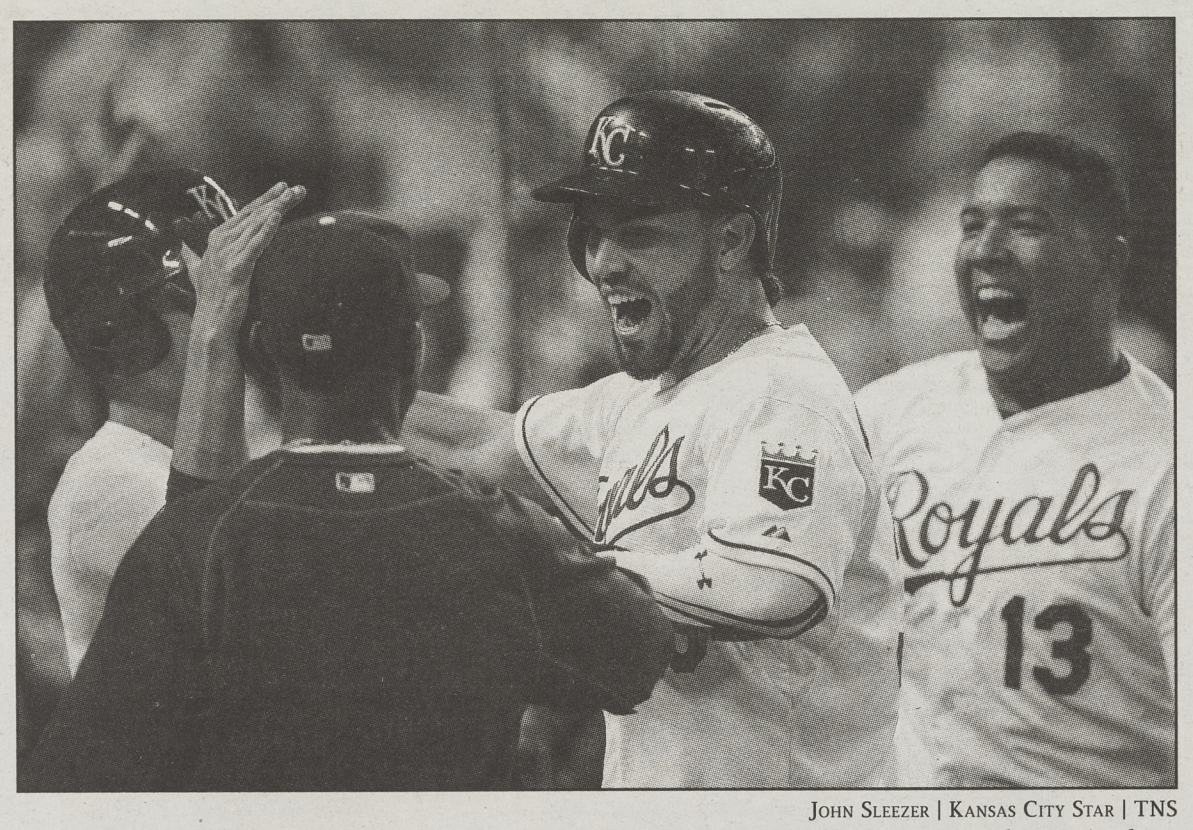
To put this into perspective, the most players ever selected to start an all-star game from one team in the history of the Midsummer Classic is six. That was in 1939, when the Yankees sent six ball players for the first time ever, and it only happened because those players were putting a cap on four consecutive championships from 1936-39.

The Royals are coming off of losing the World Series to the San Francisco Giants in their first appearance in the fall classic since 1985. Heck, last year was only their first appearance in the playoffs since 1985.

Interestingly enough, this is not the first time there has been All-Star Game voting shenanigans. In 1957, seven Cincinnati Reds were elected to start the Midsummer Classic in St. Louis, but that was back when ballots had to be submitted on paper. So, what the Reds fans did back then was a bit commendable, but still despicable.

Fortunately, then commissioner Ford Frick had enough sense to intervene and inserted hall-of-famers Willie Mays and Hank Aaron into the starting lineup of the National League. Regrettably, Frick freaked out a little too much and went on to completely take the vote away from the fans and it remained that way for the rest of his tenure.

MLB erased 60-65 million votes a few weeks ago already due to fraudulent activity (duh), but don't expect any more meddling from the higher-ups this year. In an age where social media gives the multitude of fans a voice, current commissioner Rob Manfred will have to answer to the backlash of making an iron-fisted decision like the one Frick made in 1957.



John Sleezer | Kansas City Star | TNS

Kansas City has only had seven players start in an All-Star Game in franchise history prior to this year's edition, which will feature at least five Royals in the starting lineup.

Thankfully, the Hank Aaron and Willie Mays of our generation, Miguel Cabrera and 2014 All-Star Game MVP Mike Trout, have taken a substantial lead in the votes in their respective positions and are likely to start.

The A.L. team will suffer on offense because of the Kansas City Royals and the only ones who can save them are the Kansas City Royals.

You read that right. For all the offensive deficiencies the Royals have, they do possess the best defense in the game and one of the best pitching staffs in the entire league.

If Ned Yost, manager of this year's A.L. team and, you guessed it, the Kansas City Royals, decides to continue this trend of Royals starters, then Edinson Volquez will get the start for the A.L.

Yost already said Oakland's Sonny Gray, Houston's Dallas Kuechel and Tampa Bay's Chris Archer are some of his favorites to start on the mound, but Yost could always homer it up and slide Volquez in there. It's a good thing then that Volquez can hold his own, and that pitchers typically take the mound for one to two innings anyway.

The real strength in Kansas City's pitching is its bullpen, and Yost knows this better than anyone else. Relievers Wade Davis, Ryan Madson, Brandon Finnegan, Kelvin Herrera and Greg Holland actually could form an all-star team of their own. If any of them make the roster, then the seventh, eighth and ninth innings are in good hands.

But, it could be too late by the time they step on the rubber in Cincinnati. The National League's Max Scherzer, Zach Greinke, Madison Bumgarner and Michael Wacha are anxiously waiting for the call to punish any weak hitters come July 14, and it sounds Yost will be bringing a few with him.

2015 AMERICAN LEAGUE ALL-STAR BALLOTING UPDATE #6
Monday, June 29th

First Basemen

#	Player	Club	Votes
1.	Miguel Cabrera	Tigers	11,594,518
2.	Eric Hosmer	Royals	9,150,908
3.	Prince Fielder	Rangers	2,716,049
4.	Justin Smoak	Blue Jays	2,463,708
5.	Albert Pujols	Angels	1,892,027

Second Basemen

#	Player	Club	Votes
1.	Omar Infante	Royals	7,514,642
2.	Jose Altuve	Astros	7,282,934
3.	Jason Kipnis	Indians	3,841,898
4.	Ian Kinsler	Tigers	3,522,753
5.	Devon Travis	Blue Jays	2,910,668

Third Basemen

#	Player	Club	Votes
1.	Josh Donaldson	Blue Jays	11,738,206
2.	Mike Moustakas	Royals	10,372,868
3.	Nick Castellanos	Tigers	2,076,933
4.	Manny Machado	Orioles	1,938,478
5.	Adrian Beltre	Rangers	1,416,216

Shortstops

#	Player	Club	Votes
1.	Alcides Escobar	Royals	10,057,381
2.	Jose Iglesias	Tigers	7,395,163
3.	Jose Reyes	Blue Jays	4,800,710
4.	Xander Bogaerts	Red Sox	1,819,295
5.	Jed Lowrie	Astros	1,646,430

Designated Hitter

#	Player	Club	Votes
1.	Nelson Cruz	Mariners	8,891,784
2.	Kendrys Morales	Royals	8,686,879
3.	Edwin Encarnacion	Blue Jays	4,261,040
4.	Victor Martinez	Tigers	2,632,722
5.	Alex Rodriguez	Yankees	1,984,514

Catchers

#	Player	Club	Votes
1.	Salvador Perez	Royals	11,666,785
2.	Russell Martin	Blue Jays	6,405,822
3.	Stephen Vogt	Athletics	5,445,813
4.	Brian McCann	Yankees	1,932,563
5.	Alex Avila	Tigers	1,857,585

Outfielders

#	Player	Club	Votes
1.	Mike Trout	Angels	11,461,212
2.	Lorenzo Cain	Royals	10,418,343
3.	Alex Gordon	Royals	8,934,052
4.	Yoenis Cespedes	Tigers	7,532,254
5.	Jose Bautista	Blue Jays	7,401,632
6.	Alex Rios	Royals	6,445,677
7.	Adam Jones	Orioles	5,626,318
8.	Michael Brantley	Indians	3,211,743
9.	J.D. Martinez	Tigers	3,145,200
10.	Jacoby Ellsbury	Yankees	2,690,291
11.	Josh Reddick	Athletics	2,636,134
12.	Rajai Davis	Tigers	2,479,400
13.	Hanley Ramirez	Red Sox	1,629,706
14.	Torii Hunter	Twins	1,568,877
15.	Carlos Beltran	Yankees	1,526,511

2015 NATIONAL LEAGUE ALL-STAR BALLOTING UPDATE #6
Monday, June 29th

First Basemen

#	Player	Club	Votes
1.	Paul Goldschmidt	D-backs	7,341,683
2.	Adrian Gonzalez	Dodgers	3,688,928
3.	Joey Votto	Reds	3,566,216
4.	Matt Adams	Cardinals	2,581,892
5.	Anthony Rizzo	Cubs	2,564,264

Second Basemen

#	Player	Club	Votes
1.	Dee Gordon	Marlins	6,316,113
2.	Kolten Wong	Cardinals	4,730,848
3.	Brandon Phillips	Reds	3,040,165
4.	Joe Panik	Giants	2,887,397
5.	Yunel Escobar	Nationals	2,153,973

Third Basemen

#	Player	Club	Votes
1.	Matt Carpenter	Cardinals	6,252,327
2.	Todd Frazier	Reds	6,189,347
3.	Kris Bryant	Cubs	3,559,446
4.	Nolan Arenado	Rockies	2,964,460
5.	David Wright	Mets	1,524,400

Shortstops

#	Player	Club	Votes
1.	Jhonny Peralta	Cardinals	7,151,624
2.	Brandon Crawford	Giants	4,267,238
3.	Troy Tulowitzki	Rockies	4,059,832
4.	Starlin Castro	Cubs	2,185,861
5.	Zack Cozart	Reds	2,128,730

Catchers

#	Player	Club	Votes
1.	Buster Posey	Giants	7,990,423
2.	Yadier Molina	Cardinals	6,278,553
3.	Francisco Cervelli	Pirates	2,424,229
4.	Yasmani Grandal	Dodgers	1,624,424
5.	Miguel Montero	Cubs	1,485,095

Outfielders

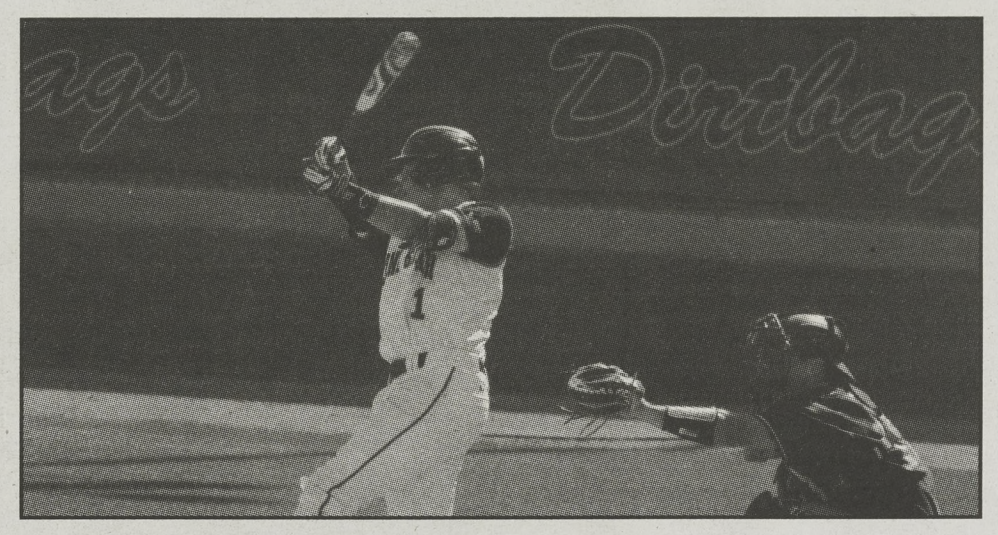
#	Player	Club	Votes
1.	Bryce Harper	Nationals	11,363,949
2.	Giancarlo Stanton	Marlins	6,062,318
3.	Matt Holliday	Cardinals	5,454,953
4.	Nori Aoki	Giants	5,115,422
5.	Andrew McCutchen	Pirates	4,577,646
6.	Joc Pederson	Dodgers	2,977,227
7.	Jason Heyward	Cardinals	2,646,697
8.	Justin Upton	Padres	2,418,452
9.	Jay Bruce	Reds	2,397,019
10.	Billy Hamilton	Reds	2,250,693
11.	Jon Jay	Cardinals	2,236,337
12.	Hunter Pence	Giants	2,154,738
13.	Angel Pagan	Giants	2,103,812
14.	Starling Marte	Pirates	2,013,249
15.	Yasiel Puig	Dodgers	2,009,405

Baseball

Staking his place

LBSU shortstop Garrett Hampson officially joins Team USA after being invited to the team's training camp for the summer.

By Kayce Contatore
Assistant Sports Editor



Bobby Yagake | Daily 49er
LBSU Sophomore Garrett Hampson was selected to Team USA baseball on Tuesday

Long Beach State Dirtbags shortstop Garrett Hampson earned the chance to sport red, white and blue as a part of Team USA's Collegiate National Team.

Hampson joined the official 26-man roster as a utility player on Tuesday, but has been part of the team's training camp in North Carolina since June 18.

The Dirtbag has played in eight of the last 10 games for USA, starting at shortstop as well as second base. Hampson has also seen time at third base.

In his eight games with the national team, Hampson has earned a .235 batting average and his four runs are tied for the fourth most on the team.

Team USA is 6-4 in its first 10 games and won five of a seven game series against the Chinese Taipei National Team.

Hampson is the 11th Dirtbag to be apart of the Collegiate National Team, and is the first since Danny Espinosa played in 2007.

Team USA will play Cuba in a five-game series next and will finish up its schedule on July 7-8 at Americas Baseball Festival when it matches up against the Canadian National Team and Team USA's Pan Am Games Team.

VOLLEYBALL

continued from page 1

How does having a conference championship change affect your team?

The format will be interesting because it's six teams. It's not going to be a clean format, it will be a little sticky because some teams will have to play a couple of extra matches, so we'll see how that goes. I think it's great preparation for the end of the year, for the NCAA championships. It's great to see the Big West jumping on board with this because it is an emerging sport. We've done so well that it's nice to see them getting on board with us.

What do you see next for the sport, now that beach volleyball has been added?

I think it's just the growth of the sport. I think most importantly it's at the high school level seeing clubs popping up all over the country. It's a new avenue for volleyball in general and athletes in general, it's a new route they can take. If they don't like indoor they can play beach volleyball. It's huge on the Olympic platform, but it hasn't been so much as a junior sport so it's nice to see that.

How do you see your team performing this year?

I think we'll do pretty well. In the Big West, with the six teams, I think it will be between us and Hawai'i, but we've got a lot of new faces. We lost a lot of leadership last year, so we've got a lot of new faces, but we also have experienced kids in terms of them playing for USA Volleyball and from a CVBA standpoint, they are all rated players. It's just how quickly can they adapt to the speed of a college game. Things move quicker so we'll have to get them ready. Hopefully we can put it all together.

Classifieds

15. Volunteers

Sleep Study volunteers Healthy men aged 22-45
Recruiting now for summer. Requires two 6 day stays. Compensation $2600.00
310.222.1860

30. School & Instruction

Take Oceanography Online this Summer and never enter a classroom! Geology 160 will be taught by Bruce Perry from May 26- Aug 14.
Learn about he ocean and earn 3 units of GE science credit towards graduation from CSULB.

31. Internships

Local radio show looking for volunteer interns (2-4 hrs per week) to assist with guest booking. Must be organized & have excellent interpersonal skills. Exp. in public relations or customer service preferred. Hrs. flexible; ref. needed
Call 562.477.5674

35. Employment Opportunites

New business expand to Hong Kong, Japan and Philippines. Leaders wanted here and abroad.
FREE orientation and training May 9th, Costa Mesa, To register call 562-425-1989.
Leave name/phone #/best time to call.

Professional couple with two sons (ages 6&7) needs childcare & help w/ light housework; hrs flexible: ref. needed: call 562.477.5674

Young Entrepreneur Program - Be your own boss
www.tinyurl.com/ebilane2

Office assist needed. Help w/ marketing, social media & organization. Needs computer skills (Mac). 10 hr/wk. $12/hr, Days and hrs to be determined. Call Chris at 562.619.5883.

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COLUMN

Lakers, Clippers hoping to thread a needle this offseason

The NBA's salary cap is on the rise, but not nearly fast enough for L.A.'s hoops teams.

By Greg Diaz
Editor-in-chief

The NBA's free agency period opened on Wednesday with teams lining up to pitch unsigned players on their vision of the future. A flurry of early signings have gotten hoops die-hards salivating for next season, but for basketball fans in Los Angeles, next season looks like more of the same.

CLIPPERS

It would be hard to look at the Clippers the last four seasons and not call the run Chris Paul, Blake Griffin and DeAndre Jordan have been on a success. It is a run that has produced the three best seasons in the history of the franchise and made them into something resembling title contenders.

Yet it is also a run that has seen the team stall out in the second round of the playoffs three of the last four seasons (losing in the first round in 2012-13). This season might have actually hurt Clippers fans the most, losing to the Houston Rockets in seven games after taking a 3-1 lead in the series (new owner Steve Ballmer certainly looked heartbroken).

The Clippers seem to be stuck on a plateau, with nowhere to climb up to. Because while they built their team around three really good players, NBA rules say that a team has to play five on the court at the same time. Finding those other two has been a bit of a struggle.

The team has simply been rotating players in and out for the last few years, praying that the team will be something more than the sum of its parts.

The Clippers have run through a litany of players that have been in the starting lineup next to their all-stars: Chauncey Billups, Randy Foye, Caron Butler, Willie Green, Jared Dudley, Matt Barnes, Darren Collison, Jamal Crawford and J.J. Redick.

The team is hoping it will be able to add another name to that list in newly acquired swing player Lance Stephenson. Stephenson was picked up from Charlotte Hornets in a trade for Matt Barnes and Spencer Hawes. Hawes was last season's answer to what ailed the Clippers, with the team signing him in free agency. Yet Hawes quickly fell out of favor with coach Doc Rivers and averaged a paltry seven minutes in the playoffs.

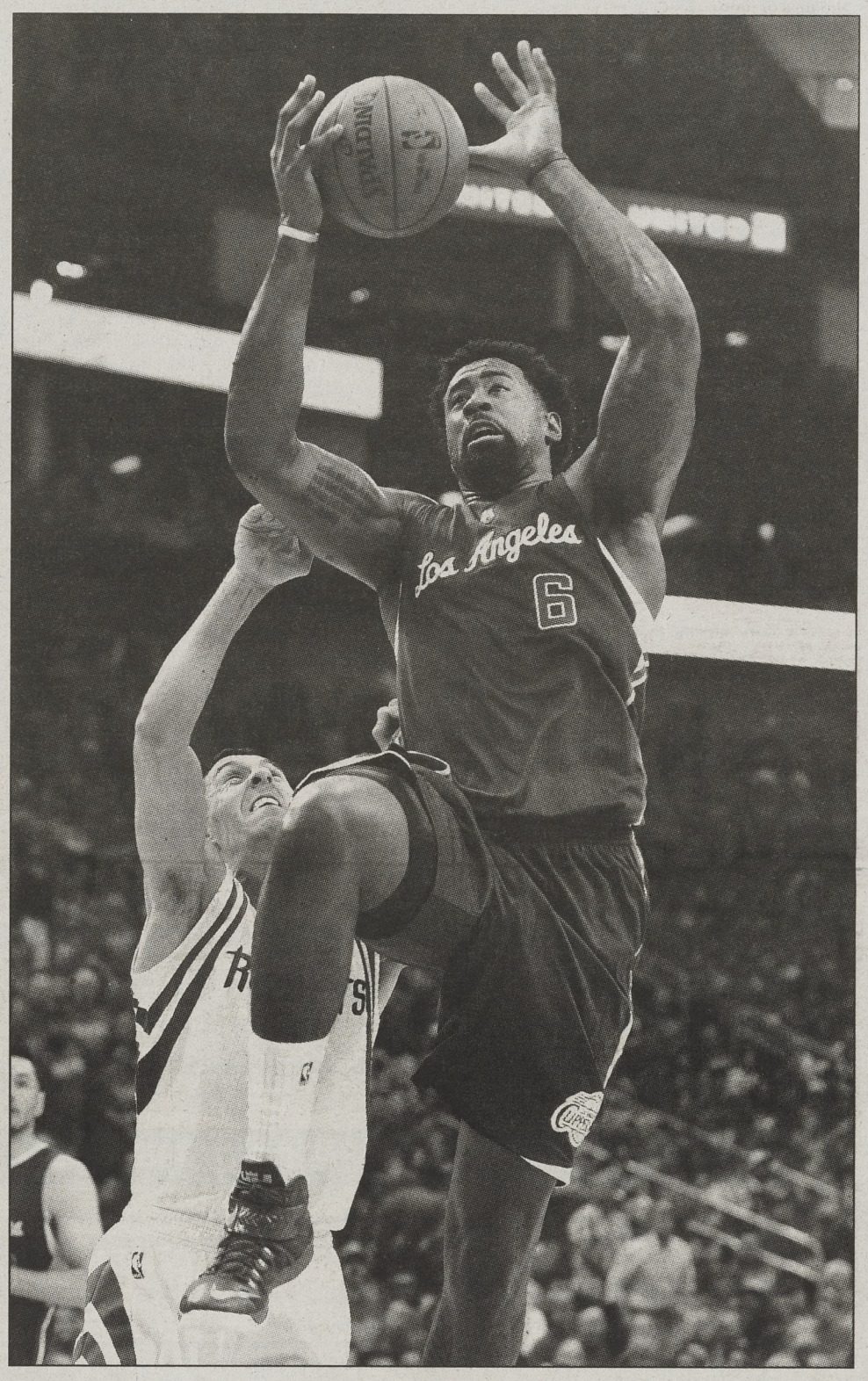
Lance Stephenson is a very talented player and is not even 25 years old yet. In looking at what he is capable of on the court, there is every reason to expect that he will add to the Clippers fortunes for next season, until you look off the court.

The Hornets signed Stevenson just last season, which should make it a huge red flag that a team as bad as the Hornets would be willing to give up on a player that young and talented. Rumors of fighting with teammates and coaches and a huge dip in shooting led to Stevenson starting in only 25 games for Charlotte last season.

The Clippers also added veteran free agent Paul Pierce yesterday. Pierce could give the team some added scoring punch at the end of games. But the team's biggest priority will remain resigning its own free agent, center DeAndre Jordan.

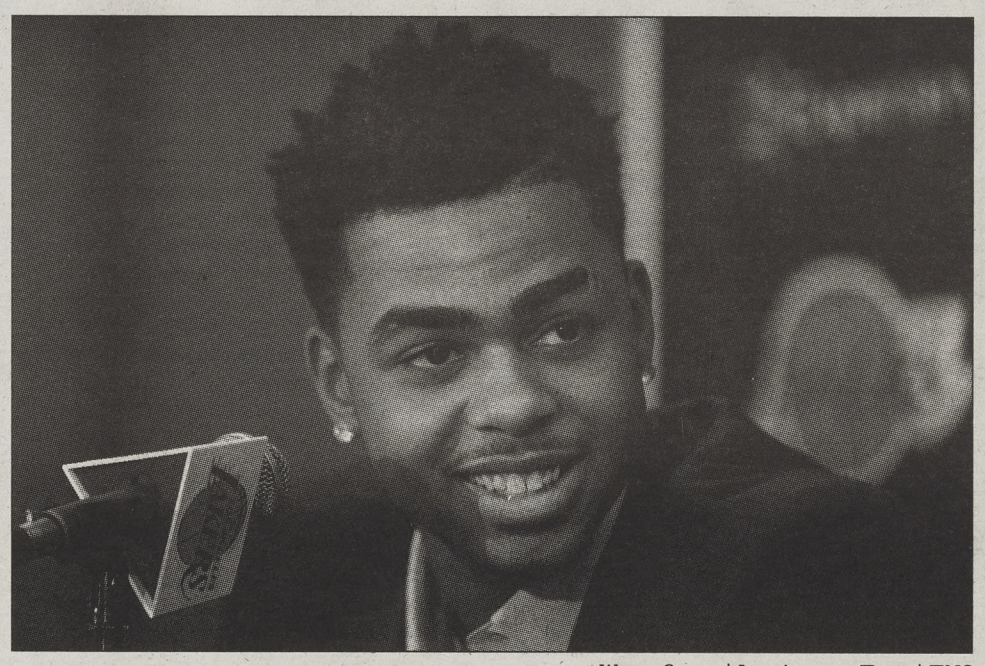
Even if everything breaks their way this offseason, they still have to fight their way through a Western Conference that has the NBA Champion Golden State Warriors, a rejuvenated Oklahoma City Thunder, three Texas contenders in the Spurs, Rockets and Mavericks looking to add stars this offseason, a punishing Memphis Grizzlies team and the up-and-coming New Orleans Pelicans.

Four years ago it looked like the Clippers had nowhere to go but up, but now it's starting to look like this team will fade into memory with dozens of other teams that were really good, but not good enough to become legend.



Los Angeles Clippers center DeAndre Jordan is one of the most sought after free agents available, drawing interest from the Mavericks, Knicks and rival Lakers.

Wally Skalij | Los Angeles Times | TNS



Wally Skalij | Los Angeles Times | TNS

Los Angeles Laker draft pick D'Angelo Russell answers a question during a press conference introducing him to the team on Monday, June 29, in El Segundo, California.

LAKERS

The Lakers arguably landed one of the best talents on draft night in former Ohio State point guard D'Angelo Russell. A 6-foot-5-inch scorer with long arms and great passing skills, Russell is the talent that the Lakers had had trouble landing over the last couple seasons. He should at least make the Lakers entertaining to watch next season.

But that alone is probably not enough to translate into many wins for a team that last season lost the most games in the history of the franchise. The Lakers are in desperate need of at least one more star player to elevate them into even playoff contention.

Their main targets this offseason appear to be the big men: Portland Trailblazers forward LaMarcus Aldridge and Clippers center DeAndre Jordan. These are all players who would certainly advance the Lakers rebuilding process, yet they are all unlikely to be in a Lakers uniform at the start of next season.

Aldridge and Jordan are players in the fortunate position to pick where they want to play for really the first time in their professional careers, and there are simply better situations out there for them. Both players have been on teams that are mainstays in the playoffs the last handful of years.

Things might be different if they were simply choosing among bad teams with lots of cap space. Throwing in teams like the Spurs, Rockets, and Mavericks, which all plan to be in the bidding for the top free agents, complicates matters for the Lakers.

The Lakers sales pitch to join a team that has missed the playoffs the last two seasons, has a star that has been unable to finish the last three seasons and only has enough cap room to sign one top-flight free agent just can't compete with teams that can immediately vault into title contenders with one signing.

Why be the one guy hoping that things fall into place in the future, when you can be the guy securing the present for a franchise that is closer to the top of the league right now?

It seems like the Lakers' best chance of becoming relevant again will come after next season, when Kobe Bryant's massive $25 million contract expires and the salary cap is expected to jump to almost $90 million (from this season's projection of $67 million).

Next summer will make for an easier sell to free agents, with the Lakers having the salary space available to sign two top free agents, a couple of young emerging players and plenty of players ready to shake up the NBA.

Stay warm Laker fans, because it looks to be another lean winter in Lakerland.